

Minutes of the Veneta City Council

December 10, 2007

Council

Present: Mayor T. J. Brooker, Thomas Cotter, Darrell Carman, Sharon Hobart-Hardin and Marion Esty

Staff: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Brian Issa, Community Services Director; Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder; Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder; Andy Vobora, Mona Linstromberg and Jeneca Jones, West Lane News

Mayor Brooker called the Veneta City Council to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Andy Vobora, Lane Transit District, P.O. Box 7070, Eugene, OR

Mr. Vobora spoke on behalf of Lane Transit District (LTD). He said the annual route review open house will be February 11, 2008 and March 10, 2008 at the Eugene Public Library. He said the open house will be an opportunity for public comment on the proposed elimination of the bus route around the north side of Fern Ridge Reservoir. He said LTD has been looking at discontinuing that route and possibly providing more circulation within Veneta. He said LTD is looking at ways to stream line the historical route between Eugene and Veneta. Mr. Vobora provided a handout map of the LTD route around Fern Ridge Reservoir and Veneta.

In response to a question from Marion Esty, if LTD were to eliminate the route, would they still provide senior citizens from Alvadore transportation to the Garcia Center, Mr. Vobora said the labor costs are the same whether they provide a large bus or a five person van. He said providing the driver is the major cost.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion.

VOTE: Marion Esty, aye; Thomas Cotter, aye; Mayor Brooker, aye; Darrell Carman, aye; Sharon Hobart-Hardin, aye.

The Consent agenda as approved included Bills Payable for November 2007 and the civic calendar for January, 2008.

3. PUBLIC HEARING (ZONE CHANGE FOR BOLTON HILL RANCH (postponed))

4. PUBLIC HEARING - COORDINATED POPULATION PROJECTION

1. Mayor Brooker opened the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.
2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest or Ex-Parte Contacts: None
3. Staff Report (Ric Ingham)

Ric said the Lane Council of Governments Board of Directors will conduct a meeting this Thursday, December 12, 2007 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Lane County Dept. Of Youth Services, Serbu Center Lobby, 2727 Martin Luther King Drive in Eugene. A decision to adopt the overall population forecast projections for the County will be decided. Ric reviewed the packet documents with the Councilors. Ric said staff had worked through the information and thought it should be reevaluated. He said there was a 3-2 vote for LCOG to move forward to adopt the projections at the December 13th meeting. Ric said the information strengthens the trend number staff is requesting to use in order to move forward with the Facilities Plans.

Brian Issa provided a power point presentation showing all the current subdivisions in Veneta including the number of vacant lots in each development. He said if every unit were occupied tomorrow it would add over 600 new residents to Veneta. When completed, the Bolton Hill Ranch (McDougal) and Applegate Landing (Hayden Homes) developments will bring Veneta's population to around 7,000. He said that number didn't include other

developments that are likely to come in. Brian reviewed what the potential population would be if all subdivisions were completed. He said the projections are not scientific, but are based on reasonable assumptions.

In response to a question from Thomas Cotter, Brian said if we stopped issuing permits today and just built out the existing permits and subdivisions that we are pretty certain will come in, we would be over LCOG's projections for 2030 using the lower growth rate. Ric said a conservative number would be 10,000 by 2030.

In response to a request from Mayor Brooker to explain to the audience what these numbers are used for, Ric said when we go to expand city services, we need to use population figures adopted by Lane County. He said the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis (OEA) requires the county to allocate a percentage of the whole number (allocated to each county by the OEA) to each community. He said small communities that don't meet the coordinated population projection are wrestling with how to build or expand their facilities. Ric said in order to acquire higher numbers, we'd need to request numbers from another community.

In response to a question from Sharon Hobart-Hardin because Veneta is the fastest growing community in Lane County, if and how we could ask for more numbers, Ric said we haven't always had consistently rapid growth. He said we need to live with the adopted Facilities Plan.

In response to a question from Darrell Carman, Ric said the projected numbers are reviewed every 10 years.

In response to a question from Marion Esty, Ric said our Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) would not be effected because it (UGB) can absorb the 2030 population projected under these scenarios. He said at some point we'll need to expand the UGB to meet the state's criteria to have 20 years of buildable land.

In response to a question from Sharon Hobart-Hardin if other factors were included in deciding the numbers, Ric said wastewater and carrying capacity of communities were some of the things factored into the projected numbers.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker if the Comprehensive Plan was the starting point when looking at the capacity of the community over a long period of time, Ric said the current Comprehensive Plan and Facilities Plan are based on a coordinated population figure of 5,760 which was LCOG's projected figure for Veneta in 2030. He said obviously we're beyond those figures. He said the Comprehensive and Facilities Plans need to be reviewed.

4. Public Testimony

Mona Linstromberg, 87140 Territorial Road, Veneta, OR

Ms. Linstromberg said the week prior to LCOG's September 22, 2007 meeting, several county residents contacted the Lane County Board of Commissioners concerning the lack of public process regarding LCOG's coordinated population projections. She said the Board directed LCOG to encourage smaller communities to participate in public outreach by holding public hearings. She asked Commissioner Fleenor if Veneta was participating in any kind of outreach. He told her Veneta was one of the communities that refused hold a public hearing or outreach to the community. She felt tonight's public hearing was a last minute effort on the City's part to conduct "public outreach". She said tonight's public hearing will not comply with the state requirements. She said she has submitted numerous comments on re-zoning issues, Veneta's water capacity and the infrastructure needed for continued

development. She said the City is encouraging bad development on land that cannot support so much development. She asked the Council to thoroughly evaluate the needs of Veneta and its residents before making continued development decisions.

In response to a question from Thomas Cotter if the City should lower our expectations for future development, Ms. Linstromberg said LCOG's methodology isn't accurate. She said the projections were overstated. She is concerned about over population projections and adequate water for the city.

Ms. Linstromberg provided a letter from Devon Trottier and Perry Burdon who could not attend tonight's public hearing.

5. Questions from the City Council

Marion Esty said it was difficult to predict what the growth patterns would be. She said, at the time, no one thought Veneta would grow as quickly as it has. She acknowledged Ms. Linstromberg's concerns about water sources within the City.

In response to a question from Darrell Carman how she would reply to Brian's prediction that we would exceed LCOG's projected number, Ms. Linstromberg said she didn't have an opportunity to evaluate Brian's methodology and couldn't comment. She felt the past and current development Veneta has experienced is based on the rapid growth caused by the moratorium being lifted. She said if we intend to build infrastructure to tie into Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) water sources in Eugene, who would pay for that? She said the City should slow down and look into how far the City can and should grow on its own. She felt we haven't look into our resources. She felt the County will challenge the numbers.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker if she felt decisions are made without looking into our own resources, Ms. Linstromberg said there was information provided by staff in an article in the West lane News that outlines the water and well difficulties the City has experienced. She said public requests have been made to provide information on our local resources. She doesn't feel the evaluation of the City's resources has been done correctly or thoroughly.

Ric said there will be many opportunities to look into all the aspects of the numbers increasing while we follow a very long process dictated by the state. He said even if the number is approved, it doesn't mean we're going to go out and build up everything. Ric said developers will provide the needed infrastructure in order to build.

Mayor Brooker said we need the projected numbers before any expansion of the infrastructure can be initiated.

Ric said the wastewater project took four to five years just in planning. He said long delays in providing infrastructure inhibit potential growth. If the infrastructure isn't there, the potential growth will not be apparent.

6. Mayor Brooker closed the Public Hearing at 7:45 p.m.

Staff recommended the Council submit the 2030/5 year population number of 9,960 to LCOG for adoption.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to submit the 2030/5 year population number of 9,960 to LCOG for adoption. Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.

5. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Marion Esty reminded everyone of the upcoming Planning Commission meeting on Monday, December 17, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. She encouraged other Councilors to attend.

Thomas Cotter thanked everyone for their participation in the light parade on December 6, 2007.

Darrell Carman said LCOG will be meeting Thursday, December 13, 2007, at the Serbu Young Center in Eugene, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Sharon Hobart-Hardin said the Parks Board met last week and viewed the design suggestions for Ralph Johnson Park from David Dougherty. She said the Parks Board is hopeful it will become a signature park for the City. She said the Progress Board is hosting a meeting at the Fire Hall on January 24, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. She said topics for the meeting will be promoting networking among community organizations, recruiting more volunteers and building our community. She said anyone who is interested should attend. Snacks will be served.

Mayor Brooker and Ric will be attending City Hall Days in Cottage Grove on December 12, 2007.

6. **STAFF REPORTS**

- (1) **Ordinance 478** - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ORDINANCE 441, VENETA'S ORDINANCE GRANTING A FRANCHISE FOR THE COLLECTION OF GARBAGE WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS. Second reading by title only and final enactment.

Ric said this is the second reading to extend the existing garbage franchise with County Transfer & Recycling for an additional five years.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the second reading and final enactment of Ordinance 478. Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-1. Darrell Carman opposed.

Assistant City Recorder, Darci Henneman read Ordinance 478 into the record by title only.

- (2) **Resolution 962** - A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 933.

MOTION: Sharon Hobart-Hardin made a motion to approve Resolution 962. Thomas Cotter seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.

- (3) Purchase and Sale Agreement for Acquisition of Territorial Sports Park. Ric said the Purchase and Sale Agreement outlines the conditions and closing date targeted for the acquisition of the Territorial Sports Park (TSP). Rick Rogers of the Oregon Department of Forestry is retiring the end of the year. He would like to get as much paperwork signed and completed prior to his retirement. Ric said the City secured \$320,100 in grant funds from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and a \$47,700 grant from the Ford Family Foundation. He said the remaining \$18,000 is needed to acquire the entire site. Ric said the TSP Board has raised those funds but would like to retain them for Park updates and improvements. Ric felt confident the two large grants would encourage donations to cover the additional \$18,000 needed.

In response to a question from Thomas Cotter, Ric said Level 1 and 2 inspections were not required of the TSP site because it has been ball fields for

many years. Ric said the City acquired the truck lot and gravel parking area from Lane County in 2004.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to authorize Mayor Brooker to sign the Purchase and Sale Agreement with the Oregon Department of Forestry. Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 5-0.


7. OTHER

Ric asked the Councilors to conduct a special meeting before the end of the year and prior to Christmas. Ric said the engineering project report for the City's Bolton Hill Road sewer LID was delivered to staff. He said Lane County will begin their improvements to Bolton Hill Road soon after the first of the year and he suggested all the improvements be done simultaneously. He said the entire LID process should be completed in early February 2008. Ric suggested holding a Council meeting at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, December 17, 2007 prior to the Planning Commission meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. Everyone agreed.

Ric said staff is meeting with Jerry Elliott tomorrow to discuss the final aspects of the project. He said an agenda for this meeting will be posted on the City's website as well as the bulletin board at City Hall.

8. ADJOURN

Mayor Brooker adjourned the City Council at 7:58 p.m.


Mayor T. J. Brooker

ATTEST:


Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder